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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington

TVS-28

April 29, 1939

MAY 6 1939

THE VEGETABLE SITUATION

Summary

Potato prices advanced sharply in recent weeks, largely because of reduced total marketings and unfavorable prospects for the early crop in the Southern States, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. New crop supplies are beginning to increase, however, and marketings are expected to increase sharply in the next 2 months. The recent advance in sweetpotato prices was due to seasonal factors and to the rise in potato prices.

Rail shipments of truck crops are approaching their seasonal peak. Market prices are holding at about March levels, and are generally higher than in April 1938. Total acreage and production of truck crops reported to date are slightly lower than in 1938, yields in most cases being below those of last year.

Although truck crop prices at market centers in mid-April were generally unchanged from those of a month earlier, beets, cabbage, carrots, celery, kale, lettuce, onions and tomatoes advanced slightly in contrast to declines in all others. Only asparagus, broccoli, cauliflower, lettuce, new crop onions and peas show prices lower than a year earlier.

Intended acreages of vegetables for canning in 1939 are much below plantings in every year since 1934, and are 20 percent below 1938. Shipments of canned corn, peas and tomatoes are very heavy, but a record total carry-over of canned vegetables is in prospect. Frozen vegetable movement out of storage is well above shipments last year.

POTATOES

Potato prices at market centers advanced sharply in recent weeks as a result of smaller marketings and unfavorable prospects for the early crop in the Southern States. The weekly average price of Green Mountains at New York City rose from \$1.65 per 100 pound sack in mid-March to \$2.15 in mid-April. At Chicago the average price for all varieties excluding Russet Burbanks and Red McClures remained about unchanged at \$1.52. Idaho Russet Burbanks rose from \$1.54 to \$1.84. Shipping point prices have followed much the same trend as market prices, with Green Mountains at Presque Isle advancing from \$1.19 to \$1.76 f.o.b. per 100 pound sack.

With shipments from Florida and Texas being less than one-half those of last year, prices of new potatoes at market centers advanced from about \$4.00 per 100 pounds in mid-March to \$4.40 in mid-April. Production in Florida and Texas areas now shipping is indicated at 1,970,000 bushels compared with 2,945,000 bushels last year and 2,975,000 bushels, the 1928-37 average.

Although the potato acreage planted in the second section of Early States and in the Second Early group is increased slightly over that harvested last year, mid-April reports indicate that yields in most of these areas except California will be lighter than last year. Potatoes suffered severe damage from frost on April 14 in Beaufort and Pamlico counties of North Carolina. Also along the Gulf from Alabama to Texas low temperatures retarded crop development. In California, conditions are reported good and digging has started in some sections. Because of the relatively favorable prices, it is probable that the harvest of the California crop will be hurried and, therefore, yields per acre will be reduced somewhat from what they otherwise would have been. The indications are, however, that yields will average higher than in 1938. Harvesting has also begun in Alabama and Louisiana, and it is probable that total shipments from the Early States will increase sharply in the next few weeks.

Carlot shipments of old potatoes have declined sharply in recent weeks with only Maine, Idaho, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota and Oregon showing any appreciable volume. The movement for the week of April 22 totaled 3,871 cars as compared with 5,200 cars the week ending March 18. Carlot shipments since January 1 totaled 70,000 cars to April 22 or about 3,000 cars less than the 72,800 cars shipped to April 23 last year. Because of a reduction in the freight rate from points in Maine to primary markets and the recent rise in prices, the carlot movement since January 1 this year is larger than had been expected earlier in the season. This probably means that the truck movement has been curtailed somewhat.

TRUCK CROPS

Combined commercial acreage planted and intended for planting to truck crops for fresh market as reported to date has again fallen slightly behind the comparable 1938 acreage. Increases in cantaloupe, carrot, onion, pea and watermelon acreage reported during April are more than offset by sharp reductions in snap bean, spinach, and tomato acreage. The 1939 acreage now totals 1,179,470 acres, as compared with 1,182,070 in 1938. Aggregate tonnage for the crops for which production estimates are available is now 2,075,115 tons. Production for the same crops to mid-April 1938 was estimated at 2,139,750 tons. The reduction in 1939 is 3 percent. The 1939 production is 17 percent above the 10-year average of 1,774,470 tons.

During the last 5 years, rail and boat shipments of vegetables have been heaviest in April and May, shipments in April averaging 11.6 percent of the average annual total for the period 1934-38, and May movement averaging 12.0 percent. March averaged 10.4 percent of the annual shipments. Shipments in these three early spring months were 34.0 percent of the total, in contrast with only 16.0 percent for the three months of July, August and September. August was the month of smallest shipments - 4.6 percent of the year's total.

Melons, including watermelons, cantaloupes and other muskmelons, are shipped heavily in June and July, 75 percent of the total movement in the last 5 years occurring in these 2 months. June shipments averaged 36.7 percent, and July 38.3 percent. May, August and September accounted for 23.7 percent of the total, leaving only 1.3 percent of annual melon shipments in April, October and November. No melons were shipped in January, February and March and shipments averaged only 1 car in December.

For vegetables and melons combined, June was the peak month, with 13.6 percent of the annual shipments; May was second with 10.9 percent, and July third with 10.7 percent. August was the seasonal low point, 6.1 percent. September and November were next lowest, each showing 6.2 percent of the average yearly total movement.

These seasonal patterns pertained only to rail and boat shipments and did not reflect motor-truck movement nor the production of market gardens in the vicinity of large cities. Supplies of market garden vegetables are usually heaviest in the summer months. August is one of the months when supplies of fresh vegetables on the markets are largest from all sources combined. In a later issue of this report a similar tabulation of truck and market garden receipts will be published.

ASPARAGUS: Shipments and prices declining. The Early asparagus season has passed its peak, and shipments are declining rapidly. More than 90 percent of the carlot movement is normally completed before the end of April. By April 22 shipments were 222 cars ahead of those at

the same time in 1938 and 23 cars more than the total for 1938. Weekly average wholesale prices at New York declined more than \$2 per crate in the last 5 weeks, and are now below last year. The late asparagus crop, while larger than the Early crops in 1937 and 1938, does not move by rail in any appreciable volume.

LIMA BEANS: Smaller crop, lower prices. Low yields in Florida on a slightly increased acreage resulted in an indicated production about 15 percent below the 1938 crop. Southern Florida is cleaning up, and harvesting in North Florida will begin early in May. Prices at New York are about the same as a month ago, but considerably below two weeks and a year ago.

SNAP BEANS: Smaller crop, higher prices. The Early (2) snap bean production is much lower than in 1938, because of slightly lower yields and much smaller acreage. The crop is now moving from Florida, where the bulk of the early spring supplies are grown. The Second Early group of States, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi and South Carolina, show a reduction of 9 percent in acreage from 1938. Louisiana, Mississippi and the Carolinas ship heavily in May. Market prices of both green and wax beans declined in the past month, but are well above prices in late April 1938.

BEETS: Smaller supplies. The indicated production of Second Early beets is 50,000 bushels below 1938, caused by lower acreage and yield. Rainfall in Louisiana, where the bulk of this crop is grown, has been deficient, and temperatures have been rather low. Prices of Texas beets, the only State now shipping, have not changed much since March, but are 10 to 15 cents higher than at the end of April 1938.

CABBAGE: Smaller supplies, much higher prices. The Second Early States have an indicated crop 40 percent below the large production of 1938, and 4 percent lower than the 10-year average, caused by both lower acreage and yield. Shipments rose sharply last week, and will be fairly heavy in May. Prices to growers have been rising steadily since January, although prices in Texas have shown some weakness in the past few days. A few cars of old cabbage have been coming out of storage much later than usual, but the deal is about over and the Rochester market reporting office has been closed.

CANTALOUPE: More acreage planted. The Imperial Valley cantaloupe and other muskmelon acreage is indicated to be about 6 percent above 1938, but there has been considerable shifting from the early covered acreage to the later open plantings. The brushed and paper covered plantings last season did not turn out very satisfactorily, having matured rather late and produced a crop of mediocre quality. Also, the covered acreage is more costly to grow. This season, late plantings were made for the most part on lettuce lands. Reports early in April indicated that there would be some melons available by May 10, but a recent trade report states that wind damage caused some loss and will delay harvest for several days.

CELERY: Smaller spring crop. Second Early celery production is indicated to be 16 percent lower than in 1938, both acreage and yields being reduced. Shipment from plantings in this seasonal group are now moving, although the Early celery has not cleaned up. Florida shipments were quite low during the second week in April, but later increased. Market prices for Florida celery, advancing for the last month, are much higher than a year ago. The trend of California celery prices has been somewhat variable.

ONIONS: Texas Early Bermuda crop short. The Early Bermuda onion production is indicated to be the smallest since 1935, and is 12 percent below the 1928-37 10-year average. Shipments are rising rapidly, and are well ahead of the April 1938 shipments. South Texas is supplying all the rail movement at present, and normally ships heavily in April and May. Prices to growers are declining as supplies increase, and terminal prices are well below prices at this time last year. A few storage onions are still moving from New York and Oregon.

GREEN PEAS: Heavy supply in California. Increased acreage and high yields produced one of the heaviest crops of Second Early peas in recent years. Quality is reported to be excellent. Total carlot shipments for the past 2 weeks were 705 cars, as compared with 720 cars for the 7-week period February 16-April 8. Small supplies are also being shipped from the Southern States. Current prices are substantially below last month and last year.

SPINACH: Lighter Second Early crop. Second Early spinach production is indicated to be well below last year and the 10-year average. Acreage is down, and yields are below 1938, although equal to the average. Most of the shipments are coming from Virginia, the Texas deal being about over. Prices of Virginia spinach declined last week, but are well above a year ago.

TOMATOES: Prices high. Market prices for Florida tomatoes are higher than at the end of March and much higher than at this time in 1938, reflecting the sharply lower Early (2) Florida crop. Shipments from Florida were 650 cars last week, the maximum week in this calendar year to date, but much below the 1,064 cars in this week in 1938. The Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas, with its largest crop on record indicated for this year, has just begun shipping. The reduced production in Florida, however, more than offsets increases in Texas and California, and the total Early (2) crop is slightly below that of 1938.

The Second Early acreage is nearly 10,000 acres below 1938. Over two-thirds of this acreage is in Mississippi and East Texas. A proposed marketing agreement regulating the handling of this crop in these 2 States has been tentatively approved by the Secretary of Agriculture, and grower referendums will be held in the near future to determine whether the program shall be put into effect.

WATERMELONS: Preliminary acreage. The preliminary report on Early planted acreage in Florida shows an upward adjustment of 1,000 acres from the 20,000 acres reported earlier as intended for planting. Imperial Valley plantings remained at 6,000 acres. The 1939 acreage is thus reported as 27,000 acres, as compared with 29,500 acres in 1938. The first car is expected to be shipped from Florida around May 1.

MOTOR TRUCK MOVEMENT: During the first half of April, motor trucks hauled from Florida the entire movement of strawberries, lima beans, lettuce and peas, over half the snap beans, cabbage, eggplant, and lesser proportions of pepper, cucumbers, tomatoes, and celery.

CANNED VEGETABLES

Reports on intended acreage of truck crops for canning and quick-freezing indicate sharply reduced plantings in 1939. The following tabulation shows 1937 and 1938 planted (not harvested) acreage, 1939 intentions, and the percentage reduction from 1938 to 1939:

Crop	1937	1938	1939	Reduction
	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Snap beans	69,570	73,280	51,410	29.8
Beets	13,700	12,330	8,060	34.6
Sweet corn	461,850	358,570	266,520	25.7
Cucumber for pickles:	119,830	89,090	64,710	27.4
Green peas	354,420	333,820	280,720	15.9
Spinach	1/ 24,720	1/ 17,470	2/ 13,600	22.2
Tomatoes	473,200	408,360	353,290	13.5
Total	1,517,290	1,292,920	1,038,310	19.7
1/ Harvested.	2/ Planted 1939.			

Contract acreage of cabbage for kraut, which has averaged 46 percent of total acreage devoted to kraut over the past 6 years, was 9,245 acres in 1937 and 9,875 acres in 1938; 1939 intended acreage is 8,595, a reduction of 13 percent. Data for the other 3 important canning crops, asparagus, lima beans and pimientos, are not yet available; their combined harvested acreage in 1938 was 118,120 acres.

If these intentions are carried out, total acreage of truck crops for manufacture in 1939 will be the smallest since 1934, when 1,155,250 acres of these 11 crops were harvested. This decrease reflects the heavy supplies of canned goods during the 1938-39 marketing season, the prospective large carry-out at the end of the season, and low prices received by canners this

year. If acreage abandonment and yields per acre are approximately equal to the average for the past 10 years, however, there will be adequate supplies of canned vegetables for the 1939-40 season, because of the large carry-over in prospect, estimated at approximately 22 million cases, the maximum on record. It appears that the canning industry is working back into the 5-year canning cycle of 2 years of acreage reductions and 3 years of increases. This cycle was followed from the early 1920's to 1936, but the 1937 acreage went up, instead of down in accordance with the cycle. If yields and packs are normal this year and demand continues near present levels, it would be possible for acreage to expand again in 1940.

Shipments of canned goods in February and March were much heavier than in the same months of 1938. Corn movement increased from 2.4 million standard cases to 3.5 million; peas increased from 3.5 to 4.5 million; and tomatoes (not including California) rose from 2.9 to 3.3 million cases. Total shipments of these 3 commodities were 8.8 million cases in February and March, 1938, and 11.3 million cases in 1939, an increase of 2.5 million cases.

FROZEN VEGETABLES

Net movement out of storage in March of 4,495,000 pounds of frozen vegetables was 26 percent below the revised February movement of 6,066,000 pounds, but was still the second largest on record. Total net outward movement for the first quarter of 1939 was 14,257,000 pounds, as compared with 5,482,000 in the first 3 months of 1938. March 1938 movement was also substantially lower than February 1938.

Lima bean movement of 1,243,000 pounds in March was the largest on record, 31 percent above February, the previous maximum month. Stocks were reduced 2,776,000 pounds in January, February and March, double the comparable figure of 1,326,000 pounds in 1938.

Frozen pea stocks were reduced by 1.7 million pounds in March, 29 percent less than in February. Movement in March 1938 was also below February 1938 by 31 percent. First quarter movement in 1939 was over 5.3 million pounds.

Peas and lima beans accounted for over 65 percent of the March movement. Movement of asparagus, snap beans, broccoli, corn and spinach combined totaled 1,057,000 pounds or 24 percent. Other vegetables not specified made up the remaining 11 percent.

Stocks of all frozen vegetables have been reduced in 5 months from 71.4 million pounds on November 1, 1938, the end of the heavy freezing season, to 51.3 million pounds on April 1. Current stocks, however, are 57 percent above the peak of 32.5 million pounds in cold storage after the 1937 pack.

Potatoes, early: Acreage, yield and production, average 1928-37,
annual 1938 and indicated 1939

Group and State	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	: 10-year:			: 10-year:			: 10-year:		
	: average: 1938			: average: 1938			: cated: average: 1938		
	: 1928-37:			: 1928-37:			: 1928-37:		
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Bu.	Bu.	Bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.
Fall and winter	8,400	17,700	14,200	89	121	122	746	2,145	1,732
Early (1):									
Fla., north	19,400	17,400	15,200	112	127	102	2,170	2,217	1,554
Hastings	16,700	15,000	13,000	112	124	100	1,873	1,860	1,300
La Crosse	2,100	1,800	1,600	111	145	110	229	261	176
West	600	600	600	106	160	130	68	96	78
Tex., Lower									
Valley	9,300	9,700	5,200	88	75	80	805	728	416
Group total	28,700	27,100	20,400	104	109	97	2,975	2,945	1,970
Total 2 groups	37,100	44,800	34,600	100	114	107	3,721	5,090	3,702
Early (2)									
Ala.	13,000	20,600	23,700	115	140		1,496	2,884	
Calif.	16,600	34,000	33,000	214	270		3,739	9,180	
Ga.	1,600	1,400	1,600	137	130		220	182	
La.	22,200	26,000	24,000	73	75		1,640	1,950	
Miss.	1,900	4,500	3,800	93	80		181	360	
S. C.	13,500	11,000	12,500	145	165		1,965	1,815	
Tex., other	13,300	10,200	9,200	67	52		890	532	
Group total	82,100	107,700	107,800	123	157		10,131	16,903	
Second Early:									
Ark.	4,900	4,600	4,500	88	100		427	460	
N.C.	33,700	34,000	36,000	141	150		4,772	5,100	
Okla.	9,800	6,200	5,600	95	96		929	595	
Tenn.	2,200	2,100	2,200	82	125		176	262	
Group total	50,600	46,900	48,300	125	137		6,304	6,417	
				- Intended -					
Intermediate (1)	97,700	72,600	72,000	142	164		13,845	11,884	
Intermediate (2)	39,400	48,000	49,300	173	204		6,829	9,814	
Total all									
States	306,900	320,000	312,000	133	157		40,830	50,108	

Potatoes: Unweighted prices for stock of generally good quality and condition, U.S. No. 1 grade when quoted, at shipping point and terminal markets, specified weeks, 1938-39

Location and variety	Week ended					
	1938			1939		
	Apr. : 23	Mar. : 25	Apr. : 1	Apr. : 8	Apr. : 15	Apr. : 22
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Shipping points:						
F.o.b. usual terms-						
Stevens Point, Wis. ....	.93	.90	.90	.84	.91	1.02
Presque Isle, Me. ....	.73	1.19	1.27	1.35	1.52	1.76
Rochester, N.Y. 1/ ....	.98	1.09	1.15	1.19	1.22	1.49
Michigan points	---	1.07	1.09	1.04	1.13	1.33
Brownsville, Tex. 2/	1.50	3.30	3.12	3.12	3.12	3.36
Hastings, Fla.	1.56	---	3.40	3.10	2.80	2.80
Warehouse cash to grower- 3/						
Stevens Point, Wis. ....	.64	.71	.75	.68	.68	.78
Presque Isle, Me. ....	.58	.92	1.15	1.20	1.40	1.70
Rochester, N. Y. ....	.72	.80	.87	.92	1.00	1.20
Terminal markets:						
New York City-						
Excluding Russet Burbanks	1.36	1.65	1.75	1.85	1.94	2.15
Idaho Russet Burbanks	2.00	2.15	2.19	2.19	2.19	2.25
New Stock 2/						
Fla. Spaulding Rose	2.00	---	4.50	3.94	3.60	3.48
Fla. Bliss Triumphs	2.42	4.06	4.04	4.26	4.48	4.36
Chicago-						
Excluding western stock 4/ ...	1.27	1.52	1.54	1.45	1.35	1.52
Idaho Russet Burbanks 4/	1.43	1.54	1.64	1.63	1.66	1.84
Colo. Red McClures 4/	1.60	2.14	2.18	2.02	1.96	---
New Stock- 2/						
Fla. Bliss Triumphs. 4/	2.22	4.30	4.52	4.40	4.42	---
Tex. " " 4/	2.22	---	4.04	4.02	4.04	4.40

1/ United States commercial.

2/ Bushel price doubled.

3/ Bulk per hundredweight.

4/ Carlot sales.

Truck crops: Commercial acreage and production for market, average 1928-37, annual 1938 and indicated 1939 as reported to April 25, 1939

Commodity and group	Acreage			Unit	Production		
	10-year				10-year		
	average	1938	1939		average	1938	1939
	1928-37				1928-37		
	Acre	Acre	Acre				
Asparagus 1/				1,000			
Calif.	66,450	71,510	76,540	crates	6,876	5,642	---
S.C. and Ga. ..	12,660	10,100	9,500	"	438	431	395
Total early ..	79,110	81,610	86,040	"	7,314	6,073	
Late	26,040	31,740	35,880	"	2,402	3,746	---
All States ..	105,150	113,350	121,920	"	9,716	9,819	---
Total, except-							
ing manuf. in:							
Calif.	63,020	65,840	---	"	5,195	6,097	---
Beans, snap, green							
and wax				1,000			
Fall	14,980	15,000	20,500	bushels	1,313	1,475	2,788
Early	18,210	30,000	30,000	"	1,555	2,550	2,550
Early (2)	28,830	30,600	23,200	"	2,462	2,753	2,004
All States ..	135,930	171,810	---	"	11,307	14,368	
Lima beans							
Fall	230	---	---	"	20	---	---
Early	1,800	4,500	4,800	"	138	338	288
All States ..	10,650	13,350		"	651	904	---
Beets							
Early	5,460	6,100	6,600	"	808	854	858
Second early ..	2,500	1,800	1,550	"	353	272	222
All States ..	10,650	10,870	---	"	1,899	1,928	---
Cabbage 1/							
Fall	1,250	2,600	2,600	Tons	8,300	16,800	15,800
Early	42,920	46,100	54,600	"	227,900	237,400	273,900
Second early ..	16,180	22,200	18,100	"	86,400	137,400	83,200
Intermediate ..	29,620	34,140	*33,450	"	174,600	222,400	
Late (domestic) ..	39,460	46,570	*42,050	"	303,000	511,500	
Late (Danish)	36,030	35,180	*32,000	"	282,200	370,300	
All States ..	165,460	186,790	182,800	"	1,082,400	1,495,800	
For market ..	145,090	169,540	---	"	928,600	1,303,600	
For kraut	20,370	17,250	---	"	153,800	192,200	
Cantaloupes				1,000			
Early	37,020	28,700	30,250	crates	5,432	5,204	
All States ..	116,270	121,650		"	14,959	14,915	
Carrots				1,000			
Fall	5,200	8,750	8,600	bushels	2,583	4,375	4,128
Early	9,460	9,350	8,900	"	1,713	1,394	1,560
Second early ..	10,710	15,620	15,650	"	4,238	6,287	6,156
All States	32,780	43,320		"	11,587	15,775	---

Continued -

Truck crops: Commercial acreage and production for market, average 1928-37, annual 1938 and indicated 1939 as reported to April 25, 1939 - Continued

Commodity and group	Acreage			Unit	Production		
	10-year				10-year		
	average	1938	1939		average	1938	1939
	1928-37				1928-37		
	Acres	Acres	Acres				
<u>Cauliflower</u>				1,000			
Fall and winter..	9,070	8,050	7,800	crates:	2,369	2,550	2,259
Early	8,080	8,240	7,680	"	2,162	2,614	2,286
All States	28,460	28,630		"	6,993	8,401	
<u>Eggplant</u>				1,000			
Fall	1,220	1,450	1,500	bu.	191	195	250
Early	880	800	600	"	256	320	210
All States	3,580	4,420	---	"	801	961	
<u>Kale</u>							
Virginia	1,780	1,050	700	"	619	514	280
<u>Lettuce</u>				1,000			
Early	44,190	37,000	36,500	crates:	5,259	4,776	4,342
Second early	48,090	53,400	70,050	"	5,382	5,804	7,396
All States	154,280	149,340	---	"	19,433	19,270	---
<u>Cucumbers</u>				1,000			
Fall	1,550	2,000	1,800	bu.	115	100	108
Early (1)	12,710	10,600	12,000	"	891	1,041	877
Early (2)	12,460	12,200	11,300	"	1,194	1,216	---
All States	44,980	43,510		"	4,153	4,595	---
<u>Onions 2/</u>				1,000			
Early (Bermudas)..	46,580	64,080	58,950	sacks	2,202	2,168	1,928
Intermediate (1)..	11,790	13,600	15,500	"	807	768	
Intermediate (2)..	6,430	5,310	*6,050	"	874	837	
Late	52,740	54,440	*57,220	"	9,914	11,142	
All States	117,540	137,930	137,720	"	13,797	14,915	
<u>Peas</u>				1,000			
Early	9,360	15,700	14,400	bu.	642	1,330	1,190
Second early	40,020	34,950	41,550	"	2,648	2,181	3,204
All States	97,350	103,300	---	"	7,359	8,281	
<u>Green peppers</u>							
Fall	2,340	3,800	4,400	"	427	473	550
Winter (Fla.) ...	2,530	3,000	2,500	"	662	1,020	750
All States	17,480	21,070	---	"	3,960	4,970	---
<u>Shallots 3/</u>							
La.	---	5,700	5,700	"	---	490	627
<u>Spinach</u>							
Fall	2,700	2,700	3,000	"	747	972	1,020
Early	38,410	44,840	40,450	"	7,304	6,578	7,266
Second early	8,900	8,700	8,000	"	2,551	2,611	2,293
All States	57,250	66,690	---	"	12,472	12,526	---

Continued-

Truck crops: Commercial acreage and production for market, average 1928-37, annual 1938 and indicated 1939 as reported to April 25, 1939 - Continued

Commodity and group	Acreage			Unit	Production		
	10-year				10-year		
	average	1938	1939		average	1938	1939
	1928-37				1928-37		
	Acres	Acres	Acres				
<u>Tomatoes</u>				1,000			
Fall	5,700	9,000	7,300	bu.	346	350	556
Early (1)	12,750	15,500	15,500	"	1,448	2,945	2,015
Early (2)	28,150	41,000	39,600	"	2,048	3,562	3,378
Second early	39,680	62,400	52,750	"	3,528	4,088	---
All States	169,500	222,050	---	"	18,685	24,312	---
<u>Watermelons</u>				1,000			
Early	34,470	29,500	27,000	melons	12,456	10,265	
Second early	160,370	164,800	*159,600	"	36,378	33,308	
All States	248,840	262,950		"	68,019	69,929	
Total acreage planted and in- tended as of Apr. 15	1,064,650	1,182,070	1,179,470				
Total acreage planted as of Apr. 15	740,000	841,170	849,100				

- 1/ Included undetermined quantities of production used for manufacture, frozen pack, etc.
- 2/ Estimates for Texas have been revised to an actual acreage basis as contrasted with earlier reports which took into account difference in widths of rows.
- 3/ Not included in totals.

* Intended.

Truck crops: Unweighted average wholesale price at New York,
for stock of generally good quality and condition
(U. S. No. 1 when quoted), specified
weeks 1939 and comparisons

Commodity	Unit	Week ended					
		1938:		1939			
		Apr.:	Mar.:	Apr.:	Apr.:	Apr.:	Apr.:
		23	25	1	8	15	22
		Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
	Crates (1doz:						
Asparagus, Calif.....	bunched)	3.38	4.83	4.90	3.56	3.19	2.65
" S. C.....	" "	2.12	3.12	3.00	2.42	2.02	1.77
Beans, lima, Fla.....	Bushel	3.29	2.48	2.72	3.72	2.88	2.44
" snap, green.....	"	1.55	2.25	2.48	1.79	1.75	2.00
" " wax.....	"	2.04	2.91	2.67	2.33	2.28	2.25
Beets, new bunched, Tex.....	West. $\frac{1}{2}$ crate	1.35	1.44	1.41	1.39	1.48	1.45
Broccoli, Calif.....	Pony crate	2.75	3.73	2.92	2.48	2.54	2.48
Cabbage, new, dom. Fla.....	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ bu. hamper	--	1.69	1.91	2.22	2.10	2.41
" old, Danish, N. Y.....	50-lb. sack	--	.39	.38	.45	.50	.50
Carrots, bunched, Calif.....	West. crate	2.81	2.73	2.85	2.99	2.90	2.83
" " Texas.....	$\frac{1}{2}$ west. crate	1.17	1.46	1.55	1.43	1.36	1.41
" topped, N. Y.....	Bushel	.75	.84	.96	.96	1.20	1.46
Cauliflower, Calif.....	Pony crate	1.69	1.85	1.51	1.41	1.55	1.50
Celery, Calif.....	$\frac{1}{2}$ crate	--	3.08	2.59	2.75	2.50	2.50
" Fla.....	Std. crate	2.10	2.45	2.81	3.00	2.96	3.19
Cucumbers, Fla.....	Bushel	1.98	3.85	3.29	2.68	3.04	3.23
Endive, (Chicory), Calif.....	West. crate	3.00	2.52	2.46	3.00	2.87	3.44
Eggplant, Fla.....	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ bu. crate	1.62	2.12	1.90	1.60	1.85	2.04
Escarole, Fla.....	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ bu. hamper	1.50	2.06	1.83	1.96	1.87	2.05
Kale, Virginia.....	Bushel	1.42	--	.38	.41	.46	.51
Lettuce, Iceberg.....	West. crate	9.08	3.26	2.94	2.85	3.10	3.73
" Big Boston, N. Car.....	5-pk. hamper	2.56	--	--	1.55	1.29	1.31
Onions, yellow.....	50-lb. sack	1.27	1.25	1.20	1.18	1.22	1.35
" Sweet Spanish, 3".....	" "	--	1.69	1.63	1.60	1.56	1.55
" Yellow, Ber. U.S. Com.....	" "	1.60	--	--	1.94	1.50	1.29
Peas, Calif.....	Bushel	2.96	2.71	2.72	2.99	2.49	1.97
Peppers, Fla. (Bullnose).....	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ bu. crate	1.85	4.77	3.75	4.40	4.67	4.44
Spinach, Texas.....	Bushel	--	.81	.81	.77	--	.55
" Va.....	"	.43	--	--	.66	.66	.56
Squash, Fla.....	"	1.33	--	2.50	2.00	1.50	1.50
Sweet potatoes:							
N.J. type.....	"	.91	1.86	1.75	1.88	2.01	2.00
La. Puerto Ricans.....	"	1.60	1.78	1.85	1.85	1.85	1.88
N.C. and S.C. Puerto Ricans.....	"	1.32	1.41	1.35	1.37	1.57	1.52
All sources and varieties.....	"	.98	1.59	1.60	1.66	1.68	1.65
Tomatoes, Fla.....	Lug	1.45	2.03	2.43	2.42	2.37	2.30

1/ Average for 1 day.

Truck crops: Unweighted average wholesale price at Chicago
for stock of generally good quality and condition
(U. S. No. 1 when quoted) specified weeks
1939 with comparisons

Commodity	Unit	Week ended					
		1938		1939			
		Apr. 23	Mar. 25	Apr. 1	Apr. 8	Apr. 15	Apr. 22
		Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Asparagus, Calif.....	Crates, (1doz: bunches)	2.70	4.46	4.42	3.95	2.78	2.85
Beans, snap green, Fla.,..	Bushel	1.51	3.72	3.20	2.15	2.19	2.25
" " wax.....	"	2.15	3.88	2.70	2.38	2.25	2.30
Beets, bunched, Tex.,....	West, $\frac{1}{2}$ crt..	1.20	1.52	1.38	1.32	1.40	1.35
Broccoli, Calif.....	Pony crate	2.08	3.16	2.70	2.08	1.78	2.00
Cabbage, dom. Tex.,....	West. crate	1.62	2.70	2.98	2.88	--	--
" Calif.....	" "	1.82	2.79	2.88	2.78	2.93	2.98
" Danish, old.....	50-lb. sack	--	.53	.50	.48	.48	.55
Carrots, western.....	West. crate	2.19	2.22	2.43	2.55	2.35	2.34
" Texas.....	" "	--	2.00	2.05	2.35	2.25	2.11
Cauliflower, Calif.....	Pony crate	1.43	1.57	1.22	1.18	1.30	1.28
Celery, Calif.....	$\frac{1}{2}$ crate	--	2.42	2.84	3.04	2.96	2.96
" Fla.....	Std. crate	2.28	2.65	3.00	3.26	3.21	3.32
Cucumbers, Fla.....	Bushel	2.16	3.98	4.08	3.22	3.78	3.50
Eggplant, Fla.....	$1\frac{1}{2}$ bu. crt..	2.25	2.22	1.72	1.94	2.03	2.28
Endive(Chicory) Calif.,..	West. crate	2.90	2.28	2.23	2.21	3.42	3.00
Lettuce, Iceberg.....	" "	8.08	2.83	2.42	2.58	2.48	3.25
Onions, Yellow	50-lb. sack:	1/1.45	1.08	1.01	.90	1.04	1.10
" Sw. Spanish.....	" "	--	1.40	1.32	1.15	--	--
" Yellow, Ber. (U.S.: Com.).....	" "	1.69	--	--	1.58	1.51	1.37
Peas, large pod, Calif.,..	Bushel	2.70	2.49	2.52	2.94	2.40	1.77
Peppers, Bullnose, Fla....	$1\frac{1}{2}$ bu. crt.	2.12	5.62	5.32	5.52	6.35	5.12
Spinach, Tex.....	Bushel	.65	.70	.66	.78	.71	.62
Sweetpotatoes:							
La. Puerto Ricans.....	"	1.53	1.50	1.68	1.64	1.63	1.65
Tenn. Nancy Halls.....	"	1.10	1.04	1.02	1.04	1.04	1.04
All types, Ex. Jersey :							
type.....	"	1.30	1.24	1.34	1.31	1.34	1.34
Tomatoes, Fla.....	Lug	1.61	2.32	2.85	2.65	2.45	2.66

1/ Carlot sales.

Truck crop and potatoes: Carlot (rail and boat) shipments from
originating points in the United States for the week ended
April 22 with comparisons

Item	Week ended					
	1938	1939				
	Apr. 23:	Mar. 25:	Apr. 1 :	Apr. 8:	Apr. 15:	Apr. 22
	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars	Cars
Asparagus	506	139	208	544	407	348
Beans, snap and lima	403	102	175	153	194	217
Beets, old		4	2	2	---	
" new	76	35	47	38	39	29
Broccoli	1/	105	53	66	43	18
Cabbage, old	0	106	49	31	49	31
" new	877	403	329	360	406	703
Carrots, old	20	25	26	23	18	23
" new	293	356	333	391	389	319
Cauliflower	167	449	301	340	174	137
Celery	587	564	565	454	298	548
Corn	12	0	0	0	0	6
Cucumbers	185	34	87	78	57	55
Eggplant	17	14	17	10	12	11
Escarole	1/	22	19	9	15	12
Greens, except spinach	35	45	36	20	14	12
Lettuce and romaine	904	1,314	1,121	1,189	1,212	1,493
Mixed vegetables	683	954	812	672	703	722
Onions, old	55	425	272	230	125	85
" new	369	6	47	238	445	934
Peas, green	242	137	35	86	316	389
Peppers	159	52	41	47	51	95
Spinach	150	251	181	247	281	222
Sweetpotatoes	82	141	100	118	130	111
Tomatoes	1,125	445	497	462	550	675
Turnips & rutabagas, old	0	5	4	1	0	0
" " new	7	1	0	3	3	3
Total truck crops 2/	6,954	6,035	5,357	5,812	5,931	7,198
Potatoes, total	4,283	5,929	5,487	4,194	4,663	4,809
Early	1,642	262	360	549	580	938
Intermediate	6	0	0	0	0	0
Late	2,635	5,667	5,127	3,645	4,083	3,871
Grand total, all vegetables 2/	11,237	11,964	10,844	10,006	10,594	12,007
Imports:						
Beans, snap and lima	0	8	6	6	2	2
Cantaloups	4	1	3	12	5	1
Cucumbers	0	13	6	3	1	0
Eggplant	9	12	10	8	0	0
Peas	0	11	4	5	1	0
Peppers	4	4	3	2	2	2
Tomatoes	107	104	116	145	130	136
Watermelons	1			3	2	2
Total	125	153	148	184	143	143

1/ Unavailable.

2/ Does not include imports.

Vegetables, frozen: Cold storage holdings
April 1, 1939 with comparisons

Commodity	Apr. 1, 1938	Mar. 1, 1939	Apr. 1, 1939
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
Asparagus <u>1/</u>	---	2,824	2,553
Beans, lima.....	4,133	11,554	10,311
Beans, snap.....	1,734	5,080	4,872
Broccoli, green <u>1/</u>	---	1,181	1,080
Corn, sweet.....	1,957	5,845	5,429
Peas, green.....	7,606	18,845	17,140
Spinach.....	2,012	2,848	2,787
Other vegetables.....	<u>2/</u> 6,427	2,586	2,027
Classification not reported <u>1/</u>	---	5,019	5,088
Total.....	23,869	55,782	51,287

1/ Data for this item prior to July 1, 1938, included under "other".

2/ Includes items designated by 1/.

Truck crops: Seasonal pattern of carlot (rail and
boat) shipments of domestically produced
vegetables and melons. Averages for
5-year period, 1934-38

Month	Vegetables		Melons		Vegetables and Melons	
	Cars	Percent	Cars	Percent	Cars	Percent
Jan.....	21,189	8.9	--	--	21,189	7.4
Feb.....	21,839	9.2	--	--	21,839	7.6
Mar.....	24,620	10.4	--	--	24,620	8.6
Apr.....	27,617	11.6	139	0.3	27,756	9.6
May.....	28,442	12.0	2,817	5.6	31,259	10.9
June.....	20,865	8.3	18,354	36.7	39,219	13.6
July.....	11,688	4.9	19,149	38.3	30,837	10.7
Aug.....	10,817	4.6	6,739	13.5	17,556	6.1
Sept.....	15,431	6.5	2,320	4.6	17,751	6.2
Oct.....	18,390	7.7	442	0.9	18,832	6.5
Nov.....	17,658	7.4	43	0.1	17,701	6.2
Dec.....	18,896	8.0	1	0.0	18,897	6.6
Total..	237,452	100.0	50,004	100.0	287,456	100.0

Note: Does not include potatoes, sweetpotatoes, imports, motor-truck shipments nor market garden supplies.

